



DAVID SANDERS, Ph.D.
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County of Los Angeles DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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March 29, 2006

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
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From: David Sanders, Ph.D., Director 

FEBRUARY 21, 2006 SKID ROW RAID

On February 21, 2006, at the request of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) Central Precinct, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) accompanied a joint task force to conduct a sweep of Skid Row. Members of the joint task force included LAPD, DCFS, the Midnight Mission and the Business Improvement District, a private security organization hired by business owners in and around the Skid Row area. The purpose of this joint task force was to ensure that children were not sleeping on the streets and/or in tents located on the sidewalks of the Skid Row area.

On that night, three DCFS Emergency Response staff members, Children's Social Worker Rick Brewer and Group Supervisors Wayne Gray and Janice Boykins worked in collaboration with LAPD Detective Joe Reyes and Captain Andrew Smith in conducting the sweep of Skid Row between the hours of 10:00 P.M. to 2:00 A.M.. Most fortunately, the DCFS-LAPD Task Force found that no children were sleeping in the Skid Row area during the search.

As the lead County agency committed to the goal of ensuring child safety, providing ongoing case management and enforcement of the Board's zero tolerance policy for families of Skid Row, DCFS looks forward to continued participation on any task force with LAPD or any other entity that requires the department's assistance. For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (213) 351-5600, or your staff may contact Helen Berberian, Board Relations Manager at (213) 351-5530.

DS:hb

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors